

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

DATE DISTR. 1 September 1950

SUBJECT 7th VP Bereitschaft in Muehlhausen-
Sondershausen

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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2. Key-officers of the 7th VP Bereitschaft were Polizeirat Schinkoethe, (fnu), Oberpolizeirat Wulf, (fnu), Oberpolizeirat Reger, (fnu), and Oberpolizeirat Pruefer, (fnu), who was later transferred to Berlin.

The Bereitschaft consisted of five companies and a half-company, each full company numbering about 160 police. Since there was a shortage of company commanders, all companies were combined into three units which were commanded by Kommissars Braun, (fnu), Stuesse, (fnu), and Ruppig, (fnu). Ruppig was later transferred to the Ring um Berlin.

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Each man in the Bereitschaft was armed with a carbine; each section had a model 34 machine gun; every two sections had a model 42 machine gun and each company had a mortar. In addition, 37-mm AT guns, four-barreled AA guns and 38-mm AA guns were available. *

A truck picked up about 3 million rounds of new carbine ammunition at an East -Berlin barracks one night about 20 April 1950. Stocks of ammunition for the other arms were not known.

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6. The Bereitschaft was brought up to a strength of about 1,400 men and split up in late April 1950. Half remained in Muehlhausen and the other half moved to Sondershausen. **

7. Officers known in Sondershausen, were Polizeirat Wolf, (fnu), CO; Polizeirat Toni Bergmann, deputy CO and PK-Leiter; Kommissar Hasenei, (fnu), PK-Leiter; Polizeirat Arends, (fnu), PK-Leiter and director of training; Oberkommissar Knoll, (fnu), chief of supply section; Kommissar Klose, (fnu), chief of personnel section; and Polizeirat Becher, (fnu), in charge of investigations and disciplinary matters. A Soviet officer in uniform inspected the unit from time to time.

8. There were rumors that a Weimar VP Bereitschaft was recently issued rocket launchers. ***

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* Comment. The 7th VP Bereitschaft in Muehlhausen is known as an artillery unit. It is doubted that its equipment should include 88-mm AA guns.

** Comment. The 8th VP Bereitschaft (infantry), also known to be stationed in Muehlhausen, may have been moved to Sondershausen, as indicated in the report. Only a Grenzpolizei Lehrbereitschaft (border police training unit) is identified in Sondershausen.

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*** Comment. A VP Bereitschaft in Weimar was reported once but has not been confirmed. It is doubted that the unit would be equipped with rocket launchers.

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